

if possible, the French prisoners; or at least to compel the English to withdraw from the French territories. The sieur de Villiers, brother to Jumonville, was charged with the execution of the commission, and this was the sole purport of the instructions which were given him. It was even expressly recommended to him, to offer no violence, if the English would think proper to retire.

He set out the 28th of June, from fort du Quesne, and after having passed through the place where the murder had been committed, and where the bodies of the French were still to be seen, he arrived the 3d. of July within sight of the fort of Necessity. The English, who had sallied out, returned in again after they had made their discharge. The fort was immediately invested and attacked. The fire was very hot, but the sieur de Villiers caused it to cease towards eight o'clock in the evening, in order to propose to the English, that they would avoid an assault, which must have exposed them, in spite of the French themselves, to the cruel treatment of the Savages.

His proposal was accepted, and the capitulation drawn. The French would make no prisoners, because they did not consider themselves as at War. They contented themselves with insisting on those men being returned them, who had been part of the escort of the sieur de Jumonville. Major Washington engaged himself to send them back to fort du Quesne,

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